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May 30, 2000

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Docket Clerk
U.S. DOT Dockets
Room PL-401
400 Seventh Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

FMCSA- 97-2350-1762

We are respectfully requesting an extension of the comment period to at least 180 days.


In order to understand the impact of these proposed rules on our company and to the transportation and agricultural communities, we are analyzing log samples, reviewing business forecasts, and interviewing our drivers and operations managers.

We are researching this information to determine:

- The probable impact the proposed rule will have on the need to increase our driving staff.
- The negative affect the proposed rule will have on the agricultural community by increasing the current driver shortage and by the apparent changes in delivery schedules.
- The personal impact to each of our drivers, and their families..
- Perceived negative affect the new rule will have on safety to the general public.

Certainly the FMCSA understands the dramatic impact to the transportation industry, as this rule was carefully written over a period of 4 years. We expect the FMCSA will grant the industry the additional time to prepare thoughtful comments on this proposed rule.

Respectfully,



Kelly Morrow
Vice President of Transportation

Cc: Commissioner of Transportation
Rodney Slater
Department of Transportation
400 7th St. SW
Washington, D.C. 20590